

Message Text

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47

ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00

PA-01 RSC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 PM-03 NSC-05 SS-15

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 1575

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, SO, US, UR

SUBJECT: SIAD COMMENTS TO PRESS ON US VISIT

REF: A) MOGADISCIO 1568 B) MOGADISCIO 1559

1. OFFICIAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE SONNA OCTOBER 19 QUOTES PRESIDENT SIAD'S COMMENTS ON SEVERAL SUBJECTS FOLLOWING HIS RETURN OCTOBER 16 FROM TRIP TO UNGA. COMMENTS ON US AS FOLLOWS:

2. COMMENTING ON HIS TALKS WITH THE UNITED STATES PRESIDENT MR. GERALD, FORD, THE PRESIDENT OF THE SRC SAID HE DISCUSSED WITH THE AMERICAN LEADER THE STRAINED RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

"FOLLOWING OUR TALKS I AND PRESIDENT FORD HAVE AGREED TO OPEN A NEW CHAPTER IN OUR RELATIONS", HE DECLARED.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE SRC POINTED OUT THAT HE EXPRESSED SOMALIA'S GREAT CONCERN ABOUT THE UNITED STATES INTENTIONS TO ESTABLISH A NAVAL BASE AT THE INDIAN OCEAN ISLAND OF DIEGO GARCIA. "I TOLD HIM THAT WE ARE VERY MUCH WORRIED BECAUSE THIS BASE IS A THREAT TO US AND TO ALL THE NATIONS THAT ARE SURROUNDING THE INDIAN OCEAN", HE DECLARED.

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JAALE SIYAD SAID HE ASSURED THE UNITED STATES THAT THE SOVIET

UNION HAD NO MILITARY BASE IN ANY PART OF THE SOMALI TERRITORY.
"WE ARE OPPOSED TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF MILITARY BASES BECAUSE
WE BELIEVE ANY COUNTRY WHICH ALLOWS A FOREIGN COUNTRY TO BUILD
A BASE IN ITS TERRITORY IS NOT FREE",
HE EMPHASIZED.

PRESIDENT SIYAD POINTED OUT THAT HE TOLD THE UNITED
STATES PRESIDENT THAT SOMALIA WANTS THE INDIAN OCEAN TO BE A ZONE
OF PEACE FREE FROM SUPER POWER RIVALRY.

3. SOMALI LANGUAGE MEDIA HAVE CARRIED SIMILAR ITEMS WITHOUT
SPECIAL PROMINENCE, SOMEWHAT LESS EMPHATIC IN TONE, AND WITH LESS
EMPHASIS ON DIEGO GARCIA.

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